

Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.

2010 Quick Facts



What you face ...

- **The .08 BAC threshold** — All 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico have established a threshold making it illegal per se to drive with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 grams per deciliter or higher.
- **Crossing the threshold** — In spite of these laws, nearly 12,000 people nationwide during 2008 were killed in crashes involving drivers or motorcycle riders with BACs of .08 or higher.
- **Repeat offenders** — A driver involved in a fatal crash who had a BAC of .08 or higher was 8 times more likely to have a prior conviction for driving impaired than a driver involved in fatal crash who had consumed no alcohol.
- **Impaired drivers and vehicles** — The percentage of drivers with BACs of .08 or higher involved in fatal crashes was highest for motorcycle riders (29%), compared with drivers of light trucks (23%) and passenger cars (23%).
- **Impaired drivers and age** — The highest percentage of drivers in fatal crashes who had BACs of .08 or higher was for drivers 21 to 24 years old (34%), followed by drivers 25 to 34 (31%) and 35 to 44 (25%).
- **High-risk periods** — Alcohol impairment among drivers involved in fatal crashes was 4 times higher at night than during the day (36% versus 9%); and 32 percent of drivers involved in fatal crashes on weekends were alcohol-impaired, compared to 15 percent during the week.
- **A serious crime** — Alcohol-impaired (.08 BAC or higher) crash fatalities accounted for 32 percent of all motor vehicle crash fatalities during 2008 — or an average of one fatality every 45 minutes.



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

www.StopImpairedDriving.org

